



## San Diego Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **CITY LIBRARY HOSTS PUBLIC CONVERSATION ON PORTRAYALS OF SOLDIERS ON TELEVISION**

*How Should the U.S. Military be Portrayed in the News Media and on TV?*

**San Diego, CA** - As part of Cal Humanities' statewide initiative *War Comes Home*, the San Diego Public Library will present a Public Conversation event, *Soldiers on TV*, by writer and Southwestern College professor Renee St. Louis, on Monday, September 22, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common, located at 330 Park Blvd in downtown San Diego. This program is free and open to the public.

Who goes to war? What motivates young men and women to enlist? How should the civilian public at home understand the work, living conditions, and struggles of soldiers and sailors? In recent years, images and information about the ongoing war efforts have seemingly vanished from the nightly news, leaving many of us searching for answers in reality television, and even fictional portrayals of soldiers. This talk aims to open a discussion between enlisted service members, veterans, and civilians by looking at the ways in which the U.S. military has been portrayed on television in the last decade.

Renee St. Louis is a San Diego-based writer and educator, teaching currently for both Southwestern College and National University. Her academic, creative, and journalistic writing have appeared in several countries and languages, in print and online. She is a California native, and a civilian from a military family in which at least one member has served in every war from the 18th century to the present.

This presentation, *Soldiers on TV*, is part of the California Reads program *War Comes Home* featuring the book *What It is Like to Go to War* by bestselling author and Vietnam veteran Karl

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Marlantes. California Reads is a program of Cal Humanities in partnership with the California Center for the Book. California Reads is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the BayTree Fund, Whitman Institute and the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

*War Comes Home* is a statewide conversation sponsored by Cal Humanities about veterans returning to California. As the long wars in Afghanistan and Iraq wind down, how will returning soldiers come back into their communities? How can we build bridges of understanding between those who have served and those who have not? Through more than 800 lectures, forums, film screenings, discussion groups, exhibits, and a statewide reading program, Californians will consider these questions and more. For more information, visit Cal Humanities at [www.calhum.org](http://www.calhum.org).

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources (including those for local authors), or search for materials online in the Library's catalog at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

*Inspiring lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other*  
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